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Donald F. Haas

Date: April 2, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the accompanying application of)

CHARLES L. EDWARDS, KIRK H. RANEY,)
and PAUL G. SHPAKOFF)

Serial No. 10/679,174)

Group Art Unit: 1621

Filed October 3, 2003)

Examiner: Jean F. Vollano

BRANCHED PRIMARY ALCOHOL)
COMPOSITIONS AND DERIVATIVES)
THEREOF)

April 2, 2004

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The Applicants have been required to elect between six groups of claims set forth in the restriction requirement of March 18, 2004. The Applicants wish to point out that only claims 50-54 are present in the present application since claims 1-49 were canceled as shown in Section 4.c. of the utility patent application transmittal. These claims correspond to the claims in Groups V and VI of the original restriction requirement in the parent case.

The Applicants assume that the Examiner's restriction requirement will be maintained between Groups V and VI. If that is the case, the Applicants elect claims 50-53, drawn to a process of preparing branched alcohol compositions, for prosecution in this application. Claim 54 is withdrawn and the Applicants request that it be canceled pursuant to this restriction requirement should it be maintained. If the Examiner prefers, the Examiner is authorized to cancel this claim by Examiner's amendment.

The Applicants assert that the above argument is sufficient to overcome the restriction requirement and also assert that they have responded sufficiently between Groups V and VI.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES L. EDWARDS, KIRK H. RANEY,
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